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Application No. 09/802,834
Amendment dated October 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action of July 10, 2006

- REMARKS/ARGUMENTS -

Claims 1 to 12, 14 to 18 and 21 to 23 are now in the application.

The indication that Claims 1 to 9, 21 and 22 are allowed is greatly appreciated.

Claims 13, 15 and 18 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims.

Claim 10 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 13. New Claim 10 is thus believed patentable.

New Claim 23 results from the combination of Claim 10 and Claim 15. Accordingly, new Claim 23 should also be allowable.

Applicant has changed the claim status identifier of Claims 19 and 20 from withdrawn to cancelled. This is consistent with Applicant's Amendment of June 18, 2002.

Claim 10, 11, 12, 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Krinner.

This rejection is believed no longer applicable at least in view of the amendment made to independent Claim 10.

Attached is a clearer version of Figures 1 and 2 as requested by the Draftsperson.

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- 8 -

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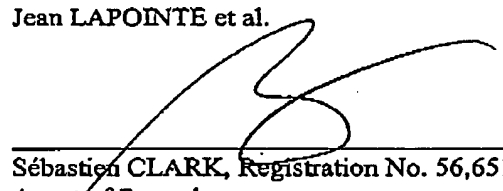
The application is believed in condition for allowance and an early action to that effect would be much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean LAPOINTE et al.

By:

October 4, 2006
Date


Sébastien CLARK, Registration No. 56,651
Agent of Record
OGILVY RENAULT LLP
1981 McGill College Avenue, #1600
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 2Y3
Tel.: (514) 847-4259